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REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-3802
22 AUGUST 1967
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ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MILITARY ACTIVITY
TUYEN QUANG AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS EXTENSIVE ROAD CONSTRUCTION EFFORTS AND MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE TUYEN QUANG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM.

2. COLLATERAL:

MAJOR CHINESE ENGINEERING PROJECTS IN NORTHERN NORTH VIETNAM INCLUDE APPARENTLY COMPLETED COASTAL DEFENSE SITES IN THE NORTHEAST, AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION AT YEN BAI IN THE NORTHWEST, RAIL AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF DISPERSED MILITARY CAMPS AND STORAGE FACILITIES IN THE MOUNTAIN REGIONS NEAR THE CHINESE BORDER. MOST OF THESE PROJECTS ARE LONG-TERM ENDEAVORS DESIGNED TO UPGRADE NORTH VIETNAM'S OVERALL DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES. THE IMPROVEMENTS IN LAND TRANSPORTATION ROUTES BETWEEN CHINA AND NORTH VIETNAM ALSO ENHANCE PEKING'S CAPABILITY TO INCREASE ITS SUPPORT FOR THE HA NOI REGIME.

THERE IS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT MOST OF THE MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE NORTHERN THIRD OF NORTH VIETNAM ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN LARGELY BY CHINESE ARMY ENGINEERS. MANY OF THE SKILLED NORTH VIETNAMESE CONSTRUCTION CREWS WERE APPARENTLY TRANSFERRED TO SOUTHERN NORTH VIETNAM IN 1965 TO CONCENTRATE ON THE REPAIR OF TRANSPORTATION ROUTES DAMAGED BY US AIR STRIKES.

NGA review(s) completed.

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THERE IS ALSO EVIDENCE THAT THE CHINESE MAY BE PUTTING A MAJOR EFFORT ON ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN THE NORTHERN BORDER AREA. THIS ACTIVITY APPARENTLY EXTENDS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER. EXTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY HAS BEEN OBSERVED ALONG THE MAJOR ROAD NET FROM THE CHINESE BORDER TO THE LAI CHAU AREA WHICH MAY BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KIND OF WORK GOING ON ALONG THE ENTIRE SINO-NORTH VIETNAMESE BORDER. ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF DISPERSED MILITARY CAMPS AND STORAGE FACILITIES HAVE BEEN OBSERVED.

THE PURPOSE OF THESE FACILITIES REMAINS UNDETERMINED. THEIR APPEARANCE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SOUTHWARD DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROAD AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FROM CHINA SUGGESTS THAT THEY MAY BE RELATED TO CHINESE MILITARY CONTINGENCY NEEDS. THERE CAN BE LITTLE QUESTION BUT THAT THESE FACILITIES WILL PROVIDE THE CHINESE WITH IMPROVED ACCESS TO NORTH VIETNAM AND NORTHERN LAOS.¹

3. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS TEN AREAS OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION (DEPICTED IN RED ON GRAPHIC) IN THE TUYEN QUANG AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. TWO OF THE TEN ITEMS ARE PHOTOGRAPHICALLY DEPICTED ON THE GRAPHIC.

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THE FOLLOWING THREE EXAMPLES OF MILITARY ACTIVITY ARE ALSO DEPICTED ON THE GRAPHIC:

THE DAI THAN STORAGE FACILITY LOCATED AT 21-41-50N 105-04-20E IS OBSERVED TO BE UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON BOTH SIDES OF ROUTE 157. THE FACILITY CONSISTS OF THREE STORAGE AREAS AND A PROBABLE STORAGE AREA (SHOWN ON MAP ONLY). OF THESE AREAS, THE ONE LOCATED AT UTM WJ076984 IS THE MOST COMPLETE AND CONTAINS AT LEAST FORTY REVEITEMENTS DUG INTO THE HILLSIDE ALONG A ROUGHLY L-SHAPED ACCESS ROAD. THE OBLIQUITY OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY PRECLUDES A MORE ACCURATE REVEITEMENT COUNT. UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS, BOTH PARALLEL AND PERPENDICULAR TO THE ACCESS ROAD, VARYING FROM ONE TO THREE, ARE OBSERVED WITHIN THE REVEITEMENTS. THE TWO OTHER STORAGE AREAS ARE LOCATED AT UTM WJ070996 AND UTM WJ072994 AND ARE IN EARLIER STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION. THE PROBABLE STORAGE AREA LOCATED AT UTM WK076012 CONSISTS ONLY OF THE CONSTRUCTED ACCESS ROAD.

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A PROBABLE MILITARY CAMP LOCATED AT 21-54-10N 104-53-50E (UTM VK 895218) SOUTH OF ROUTE 157 AT THE BASE OF A LARGE HILL CONSISTS OF AT LEAST FIFTY-FOUR (TWENTY DEPICTED ON GRAPHIC) PARTIALLY CONCEALED BUILDINGS THAT ARE DISPERSED FOR 1300 YARDS ALONG THE BASE OF THE HILL AND ARE CONNECTED TO ROUTE 157 BY FOOT TRAILS. THIS FACILITY IS POSSIBLY A RELOCATION OF THE DISMANTLED NGOC THI BARRACKS, SUPPLY DEPOT, POSSIBLE PW CAMP N-40 [REDACTED] LOCATED ADJACENT TO ROUTE 157.

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THE LANG KE PROBABLE PRISON IS LOCATED AT 21-56-30N 104-52-08E
(UTM VK865262) ON THE EAST BANK OF THE NGOI BIEC (RIVER), 1.1 NM
NORTH-NORTHWEST OF LANG KE. THE PROBABLE PRISON CONSISTS OF A WALLED
COMPOUND, WITH GUARD TOWERS, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY EIGHTEEN PARTIALLY
CONCEALED BUILDINGS. APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-ONE MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORT
BUILDINGS ARE LOCATED IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF THE COMPOUND. FOOT TRAILS
CONNECT THE AREA TO ROUTE 158. THE COMPOUND IS PROBABLY A RELOCATION
OF THE LANG KE POSSIBLE PW DETENTION INSTALLATION N-39 [REDACTED] 25X1
(NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC) LOCATED AT UTM VK870246 WHICH HAS APPARENTLY
BEEN DISMANTLED. [REDACTED] 25X1

ALL UTM COORDINATES ARE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L7014, SHEETS 5952
IV, 6052 III AND IV. 25X1

¹TAC. WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE DIGEST 705601, 03 MAY 1967 (SECRET) [REDACTED]
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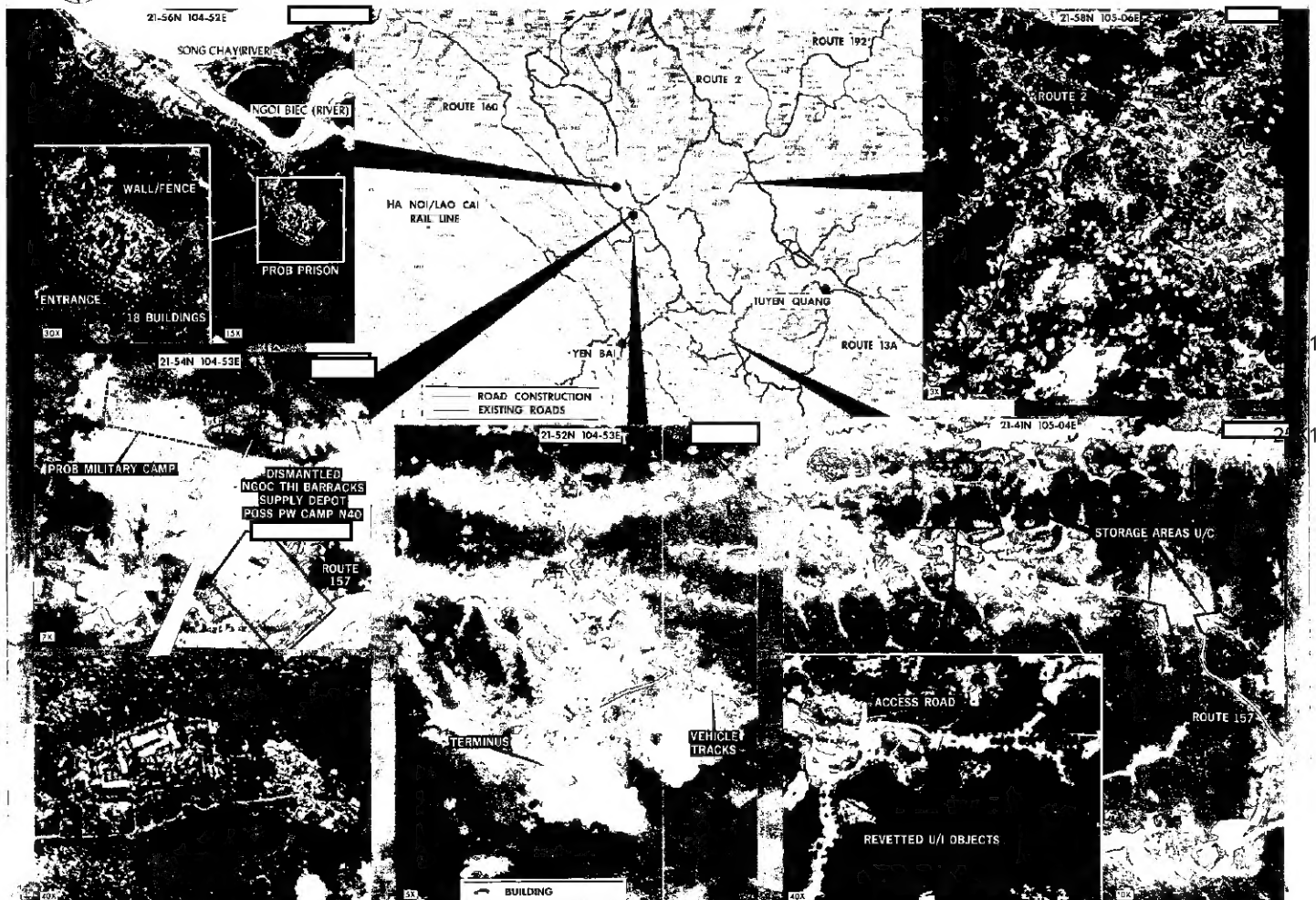
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